

POLYNOIDAE (POLYCHAETA) FROM THE CANARY ISLANDS

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ABSTRACT

This paper is a contribution to the study of the family Polynoidae (Polychaeta) from the Canary Islands. The material examined has been collected by the authors from 1975 to 1989. A total of 18 species was found belonging to 8 genera: *Gesiella* (1), *Polynoe* (1), *Adyte* (1), *Subadyte* (1), *Harmothoe* (11), *Alentia* (1), *Lepidasthenia* (1) and *Lepidonotus* (1). Ten species are new to this fauna and one, *Harmothoe cascabullicola*, is new to science. Furthermore, the genera *Polynoe*, *Adyte* and *Lepidasthenia* are recorded for the first time in the Canary Islands.

The Polychaeta of the Canary Islands are enumerated in the provisional catalogue of Núñez et al. (1984), in which are recorded 148 species, 12 of which belong to the family Polynoidae. Samples from the Canary coastline were examined and members of Polynoidae studied. A total of 173 specimens was studied, belonging to 7 subfamilies, 8 genera, and 18 species, of which 9 species are recorded for the first time in the Canarian fauna. Worthy of note is the large number of species belonging to the genus *Harmothoe* (11), one of which, *H. cascabullicola* is new.

METHODS

The material examined was collected from 1975 to 1989, from 61 stations, at 45 localities on the Canary coasts (Fig. 1). The list of stations, with their localities, types of substrate and collecting data are listed in Table 1.

The methods used in collecting depended on the type of substrate. The subtidal samples from the coral community, *Dendrophyllia ramea*, in depths between 48 m and 119 m, were obtained from the remains caught in the trammel nets of fishermen. The infralittoral samples in depths between 2 m and 15 m, were obtained by dredging, scuba-diving and unaided diving. In the mid-littoral zone samples were collected by hand.

Accurate information about the microtubercles of the elytra in the Polynoidae is important for identification, and we examined this character with the scanning electron microscope (Fig. 2A-F). Furthermore, drawings and measurements were made using a microscope with differential interference-contrast optics.

The material examined is deposited in the Department of Animal Biology (Zoology) of the University of La Laguna (DZUL), the Insular Museum of Natural Science in Santa Cruz de Tenerife (TFMC) and the private collection of J. Núñez (JN).

The types are deposited in the Museo Insular de Ciencias Naturales de Santa Cruz de Tenerife (TFMC).

Family POLYNOIDAE Kinberg, 1856

[* indicates species new for Canarian fauna;

() Number of specimens collected]

Subfamily Polynoinae Pettibone (in press)

Genus *Polynoe* Savigny, 1820

**Polynoe scolopendrina* Savigny, 1820

Polynoe scolopendrina, Fauvel, 1923: 80, fig. 30a-k. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 57, figs. 18a-c, 53, 54.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 26(1), 6 m, black sand and rock.

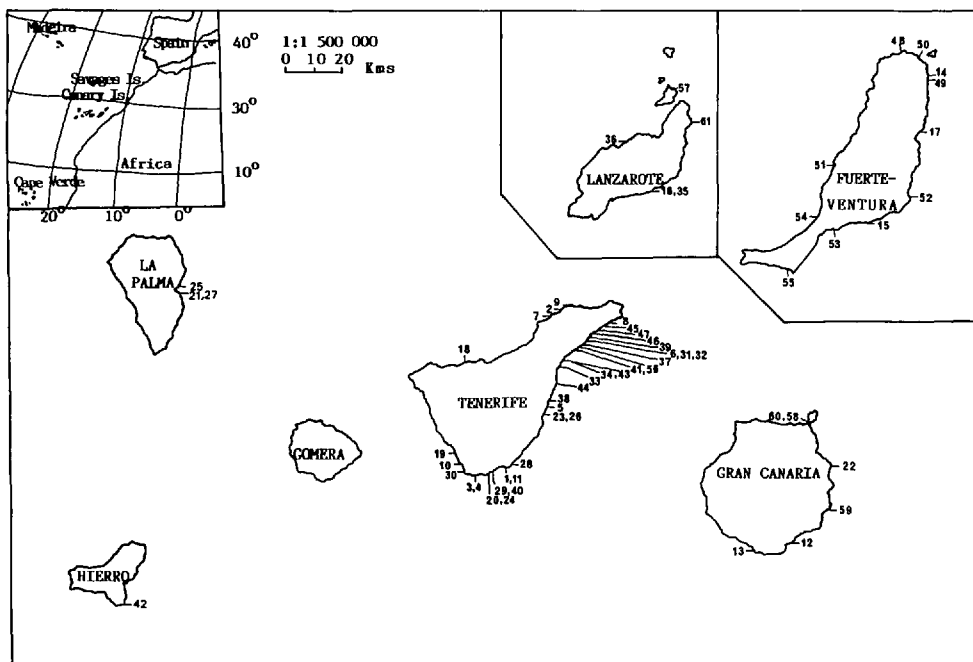


Figure 1. Map of Canary Islands showing stations mentioned in Table 1.

Subfamily Gesiellinae Muir, 1982

Genus *Gesiella* Pettibone, 1976

Gesiella jameensis (Hartmann-Schröder, 1974)

Macellicephalus jameensis Hartmann-Schröder, 1974: 76, figs. 1–8. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 120.

Gesiella jameensis, Pettibone, 1976: 64, fig. 36a–i.

Material.—Canarias: Lanzarote, sta. 61(7), 2–4 m, volcanic tube.

Subfamily Lepidonotinae Willey, 1902

Genus *Lepidonotus* Leach, 1816

Lepidonotus clava (Montagu, 1808)

Lepidonotus clava, Alaejos, 1905: 15, pls. 1, 2. Fauvel, 1923: 46, fig. 16a–e. Sosa, Núñez and Bacallado, 1977: 232, pl. 1A–D, pl. 2A, B. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 19, figs. 1a, 4a, 24, 25a–c. Campoy, 1982: 81. Kirkegaard, 1983: 193. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 122.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 2(4), 4(4), 5(7), 6(2), 7(5), 10(2), 11(11), 18(1), 19(1), 20(12), 24(2), midlittoral, 2–9 m, rocky shore, muddy and rocky, pool on basalt shore, *Cystoseira*, *Corallina*, *Jania*, *Gelidium*, photophilic algae, interior of sponge; La Palma, sta. 21(1), 25(1), 27(1), midlittoral, rocky shore; Gran Canaria, sta. 12(1), 13(5), 22(1), 59(1), 60(8), midlittoral, algae on rocky shore, calcareous crusts, *Ircinia*, crevices in basaltic rocks; Fuerteventura, sta. 14(2), 17(2), 48(1), 49(1), 50(1), 52(1), midlittoral, 2–10 m, crevices in basaltic rocks, rocky, *Verongia aerophoba*, *Caulerpa-Cymodocea*, *Ircinia*; Lanzarote, sta. 16(4), 35(2), 57(1), 61(8), midlittoral, 2–4 m, rocky shore, sandy-stony.

Subfamily Lepidastheniinae Pettibone, 1989

Genus *Lepidasthenia* Malmgren, 1867

**Lepidasthenia* sp.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 28(1), 30(1), 5–7 m, midlittoral, coarse sand, sand-stone, rocky shore.

Table 1. List of stations on Canary coasts

Station	Substrata	Locality	Depth	Date
1	<i>Corallina</i>	La Tejita (T)	0 m	08-03-1975
2	rocky shore	Bajamar (T)	0 m	25-03-1975
3	black sand and rock	Las Galletas (T)	5 m	27-03-1975
4	rocky shore	Las Galletas (T)	0 m	27-03-1975
5	rocky shore	Porís de Abona (T)	0 m	28-03-1975
6	muddy and rocky	Barranco Hondo (T)	2 m	11-07-1975
7	<i>Cystoseira</i>	Playa Jover (T)	0 m	13-07-1975
8	sandy and rocky	Las Teresitas (T)	3 m	17-07-1975
9	pool on basalt shore	Punta Hidalgo (T)	0 m	17-07-1975
10	pool on basalt shore	Los Cristianos (T)	0 m	18-09-1975
11	<i>Corallina, Jania</i>	La Tejita (T)	0 m	04-04-1976
12	algae on rocky shore	San Agustín (C)	0 m	13-04-1976
13	calcareous crusts	Arguineguín (C)	0 m	14-04-1976
14	crevices in basaltic rocks	Punta Porís (F)	0 m	26-12-1976
15	<i>Corallina, Jania</i>	Gran Tarajal (F)	0 m	28-12-1976
16	rocky shore	Arrecife (L)	0 m	29-12-1976
17	crevices in basaltic rocks	Puerto Rosario (F)	0 m	31-12-1976
18	<i>Gelidium</i>	San Marcos (T)	0 m	09-05-1977
19	photophilic algae	Las Américas (T)	0 m	27-06-1977
20	photophilic algae	Los Abrigos (T)	0 m	28-08-1977
21	rocky shore	Los Cancajos (P)	0 m	03-09-1977
22	rocky shore	Melenara (C)	0 m	04-09-1977
23	black sand and rock	Los Abades (T)	3-6 m	08-09-1977
24	interior of sponge	Los Abrigos (T)	4-9 m	11-09-1977
25	rocky shore	S/C de la Palma (P)	0 m	10-03-1978
26	black sand and rock	Los Abades (T)	6 m	14-04-1978
27	rocky shore	Los Cancajos (P)	0 m	05-06-1978
28	coarse sand, sand-stone	El Médano (T)	5-7 m	11-11-1978
29	sand-stone	Agua Dulce (T)	6 m	11-03-1979
30	rocky shore	Pall-Mar (T)	0 m	15-07-1980
31	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Barranco Hondo (T)	113 m	09-12-1980
32	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Barranco Hondo (T)	119 m	24-12-1980
33	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Playa la Viuda (T)	82 m	02-01-1981
34	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Candelaria (T)	100 m	06-02-1981
35	rocky shore	Arrecife (L)	0 m	13-12-1981
36	rocky shore	La Santa (L)	0 m	16-12-1981
37	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Tabaiba (T)	108 m	23-01-1982
38	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Las Eras (T)	113 m	17-02-1982
39	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Sta. M ^a del Mar (T)	107 m	27-02-1982
40	sand and gravel	Agua Dulce (T)	15 m	20-03-1982
41	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Las Caletillas (T)	102 m	01-14-1982
42	rock with <i>Spondylus</i>	La Restinga (H)	5 m	07-04-1982
43	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Candelaria (T)	82 m	14-04-1982
44	<i>Caulerpa, Sargassum</i>	Punta de Güímar (T)	53 m	15-04-1982
45	muddy	La Dársena (T)	9 m	19-07-1982
46	interior of sponge	Muelle Honduras (T)	43 m	22-07-1982
47	sandy-stony	Santa Cruz (T)	5 m	29-07-1982
48	rocky shore	Morro la Vieja (F)	0 m	16-09-1982
49	<i>Verongia aerophoba</i>	Los Lavaderos (F)	2-3 m	17-09-1982
50	<i>Caulerpa-Cymodocea</i>	Corralejo (F)	8 m	18-09-1982
51	sandy-stony	Ajuy (F)	0 m	19-09-1982
52	rocky	Las Borriquillas (F)	10 m	19-09-1982
53	<i>Ircinia</i>	Tarajalejo (F)	0 m	21-09-1982
54	<i>Valonia utricularis</i>	Istmo la Pared (F)	0 m	21-09-1982
55	stony	Morro Jable (F)	0 m	22-09-1982
56	<i>Dendrophyllia ramea</i>	Las Caletillas (T)	48 m	03-02-1983
57	sandy-stony	La Graciosa (L)	0 m	28-03-1983
58	sandy-stony	Las Canteras (C)	4 m	04-10-1983
59	<i>Ircinia</i>	Arinaga (C)	0 m	12-07-1986
60	crevices in basaltic rocks	Las Canteras (C)	0 m	13-12-1986
61	volcanic tube	Cueva tres Lagos (L)	2-4 m	04-04-1989

T = Tenerife, P = La Palma, G = La Gomera, H = El Hierro, C = Gran Canaria, F = Fuerteventura, L = Lanzarote (Fig. 1), S/C = Santa Cruz.

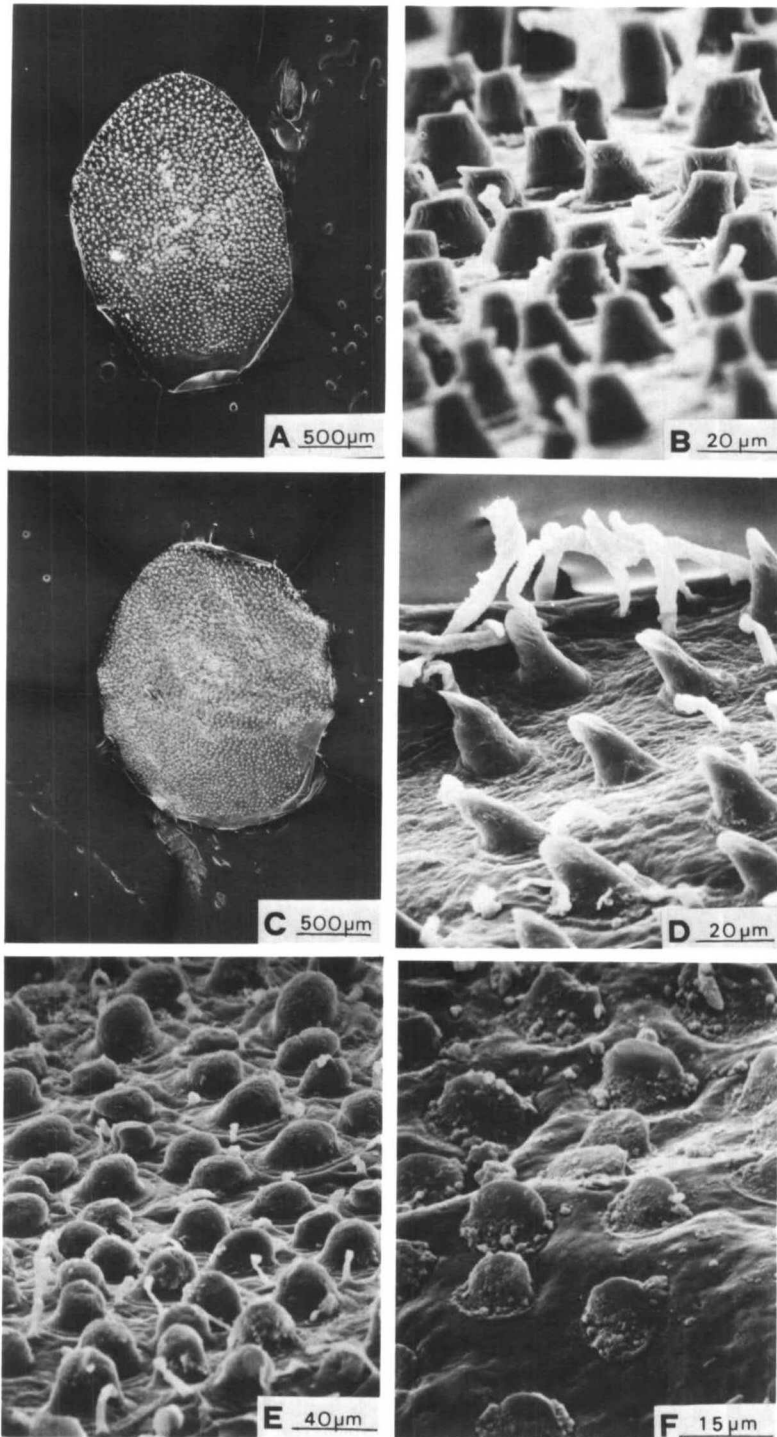


Figure 2. Middle elytra and surface microtubercles (SEM photographs): A, B, *Harmothoe cascabulicola*, holotype; C, D, *H. goreensis*; E, *H. gilchristi*; F, *H. spinifera*.

Subfamily Alentiinae Pettibone (in press)

Genus *Alentia* Malmgren, 1865*Alentia gelatinosa* (Sars, 1835)

Alentia gelatinosa, Hartmann-Schröder, 1971: 45, fig. 10a–d. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 65, figs. 21, 57a–d. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 121.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 33(2), 34(1), 41(2), 43(1), 82–102 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

Subfamily Arctoninae Hanley, 1989

Genus *Adyte* Saint-Joseph, 1899, emend. Pettibone, 1969**Adyte cf. assimilis* (McIntosh, 1874)

Adyte assimilis, Pettibone, 1969: 5, figs. 2a–f, 3a–g. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 62 figs. 20a, b 56a. Baratech and San Martín, 1987: 39, fig. 1A, B.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 39(1), 107 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

Subfamily Harmothoinae Willey, 1902

Genus *Subadyte* Pettibone, 1969*Subadyte pellucida* (Ehlers, 1864)

Scalisetosus pellucidus, Fauvel, 1923: 74, fig. 27a–f.

Subadyte pellucida, Pettibone, 1969: 8, fig. 4a–c. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 121.

Adyte pellucida, Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 63, figs. 5a, 20c, d, 56b.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 8(1), 9(1), 44(18), 45(1), 56(1), 3–53 m, sand and rocks, muddy, pool on basalt shore, *Caulerpa*, *Sargassum*, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

Genus *Harmothoe* Kinberg, 1865*Harmothoe areolata* (Grube, 1860)

Harmothoe areolata, Fauvel, 1923: 62, fig. 52a–e. Sosa, Núñez and Bacallado, 1977: 233, pl. 3A–D. Campoy, 1982: 59. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 121.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 8(6), 28(1), 40(1), 47(1), 3–15 m, sand and rocky, coarse sand, sand-stones, sand and gravel; Gran Canaria, sta. 58(1), 4 m, sandy-stony; Lanzarote, sta. 36(1), midlittoral, rocky shore.

Harmothoe extenuata (Grube, 1840)

Lagisca extenuata, Fauvel, 1923: 70, fig. 28a–k. Campoy, 1982: 56. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 120.

Harmothoe extenuata, Alaejos, 1905: 55, pl. 9, fig. 8, pl. 10, figs. 1–12, pl. 11, fig. 1. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 34, figs. 10, 34a–c.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 34(1), 100 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

**Harmothoe gilchristi* Day, 1960

Figure 2E

Harmothoe gilchristi, Day, 1967: 68, fig. 1.10a–e.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 31(1), 113 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

**Harmothoe goreensis* Augener, 1918

Figure 2C, D

Harmothoe goreensis, Day, 1967: fig. 1.9n–r. Kirkegaard, 1983: 191.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 34(1), 37(3), 100–108 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

**Harmothoe flaccida* (Potts, 1910)

Lagisca flaccida Potts, 1910: 339, pl. 18, fig. 11, pl. 21, figs. 49, 50. Rullier, 1964: 127.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 9(1), midlittoral, pool on basalt shore.

Harmothoe lunulata (Delle Chiaje, 1822)

Harmothoe lunulata, Fauvel, 1923: 70, fig. 26a–h. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 51, figs. 16c–g, 48, 49. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 121.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 3(1), 6(2), 29(1), 2–6 m, black sand and rock, muddy and rock, sandy-stone; Fuerteventura, sta. 51(1), midlittoral, sandy-stony.

**Harmothoe imbricata* (Linnaeus, 1767)

Harmothoe imbricata, Fauvel, 1923: 55, fig. 18f–l. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 30, figs. 7a, 9a, b, 31. Campoy, 1982: 61, pl. 3a–g.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 23(1), 3–6 m, black sand and rocks.

**Harmothoe impar* (Johnston, 1839)

Harmothoe impar, Alaejos, 1905: 60, pl. 10, figs. 13–16, pl. 11, figs. 2–16. Fauvel, 1923: 59, fig. 21a–f. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 40, figs. 7b, 12b, c, 38a, b. Campoy, 1982: 63.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 39(1), 107 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*.

**Harmothoe glabra* (Malmgren, 1865)

Harmothoe glabra, Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 55, figs. 17c–e, 51, 52.

Harmothoe setosissima, Alaejos, 1905: 52, pl. 8, figs. 1–3, pl. 9, figs. 1–7.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 38(1), 46(1), 43–113 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*, interior of sponge.

Harmothoe spinifera (Ehlers, 1864)

Figure 2F

Harmothoe spinifera, Alaejos, 1905: 41, pl. 5, figs. 8–10, pl. 6, figs. 1–6. Fauvel, 1923: 64, fig. 23f–l. Tebble and Chambers, 1982: 28, figs. 8a–c, 20. Campoy, 1982: 72, pl. 4a–g. Núñez, Brito and Bacallado, 1984: 121.

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 1(2), 6(2), 11(2), 20(7), 24(4), 2–9 m, midlittoral, *Corallina*, *Jania*, muddy and rock, photophilic algae, interior of sponge; Fuerteventura, sta. 42(3), 5 m, rocky with *Spondylus*.

Harmothoe cascabillicola new species

Figures 2A, B, 3A–K

Material.—Canarias: Tenerife, sta. 32(2), Barranco Hondo, 119 m, *Dendrophyllia ramea*, holotype and paratype (TFMC).

Description.—Holotype ovigerous female, 17 mm long and 6.5 mm wide, including setae, with 38 segments. Body rectilinear tapering anteriorly and posteriorly, slightly arched dorsally and flattened ventrally; preserved color yellowish green with areas of dark pigmentation on elytra, antennae and cirri with dark pigmented bands. The ceratophores and facial tubercle show a darker coloration.

Elytra 15 pairs on segments 2, 4, 5, alternate segments to 23, 26, 29, 32, with dorsal cirri on posterior segments. Elytra large, overlapping, covering dorsum, attached on prominent elytraphores. First pair rounded, rest oval, with well developed fringe of digitiform soft papillae on lateral and posterior borders (Fig. 3I, A2); elytral surface covered with numerous microtubercles, truncate conical shape,

also filiform soft papillae on surface (Fig. 2B, 3J). Dorsal cirri on segments lacking with cirrophores and distal cylindrical styles long, with tips filiform and covered with digitiform papillae (Fig. 3E).

Prostomium bilobed, with well developed divergent cephalic peaks; two pairs of eyes, anterior pair lateral, slightly anterior to widest part of prostomium, posterior pair slightly smaller than anterior pair. Ceratophore of median antenna in anterior notch with long style, two times length of prostomium, lateral antennae with very short styles, two and one half times shorter than length of prostomium, ceratophores inserted ventrally (Fig. 3A). Antennae covered with short papillae. Palps tapering, long, and one half times length of prostomium. First or tentacular segment fused to prostomium, not visible dorsally; tentaculophores lateral to prostomium, with acicula and two setae, each with pair of tentacular cirri, subequal in length, similar shape to dorsal cirri and median antenna. Distinct facial tubercle and small nuchal fold. Second or buccal segment with first pair of large elytraphores, biramous parapodia, and ventral buccal cirri attached basally prominent cirrophores lateral to ventral mouth with styles similar to tentacular cirri, larger than following ventral cirri.

Parapodia biramous, with greater development of neuropodium; notopodium consisting of rounded lobe; neuropodium consisting of elongated conical presetal acicular lobe, with supraacicular process, and shorter rounded postsetal lobe (Fig. 3E). Notosetae yellowish, thicker than neurosetae, with transversal spinous rows (8–9 rows in length of 100 μm), bare tip blunt with vertical incision (length of the tips 20–22 μm) (Fig. 3B, C). Neurosetae of second segment unidentate and bidentate, thinner and more spinous than present in remaining segments. From third segment, upper unidentate neurosetae (1–3) are longer and straighter with 26 groups of spines (Fig. 3D, K). Neurosetae of mid-segments (25 on parapodium 16), secondary tooth long and straight reaching two thirds the length of slightly curved main tooth, with bare tips (50 μm), showing distal thickening (30 μm); spinous regions with up to 16 groups of spines (Fig. 3F, G). Lower neurosetae shorter, unidentate (1–3), with slightly curved tips, up to 14 groups of spines (Fig. 3H).

Remarks.—This species differs in the form of the elytral truncate conical microtubercles and very well developed divergent prostomial peaks. Similar species such as *Harmothoe viridis* Loshamn, 1981 (Loshamn, 1981) and *Harmothoe goreensis* Augener, 1918 (Day, 1967) differ from *H. cascabullicola* in the type of elytral microtubercles.

Etymology.—The specific name refers to the type of samples where it has been found, called “cascabullo,” which are remains of corals and other sessile organisms, caught in the nets of fishermen.

Ecological Data.—Circa-littoral species, collected at a depth of 119 m from a seabed in the community of *Dendrophyllia ramea* (orange-colored coral).

Distribution.—Tenerife, Canary Islands.

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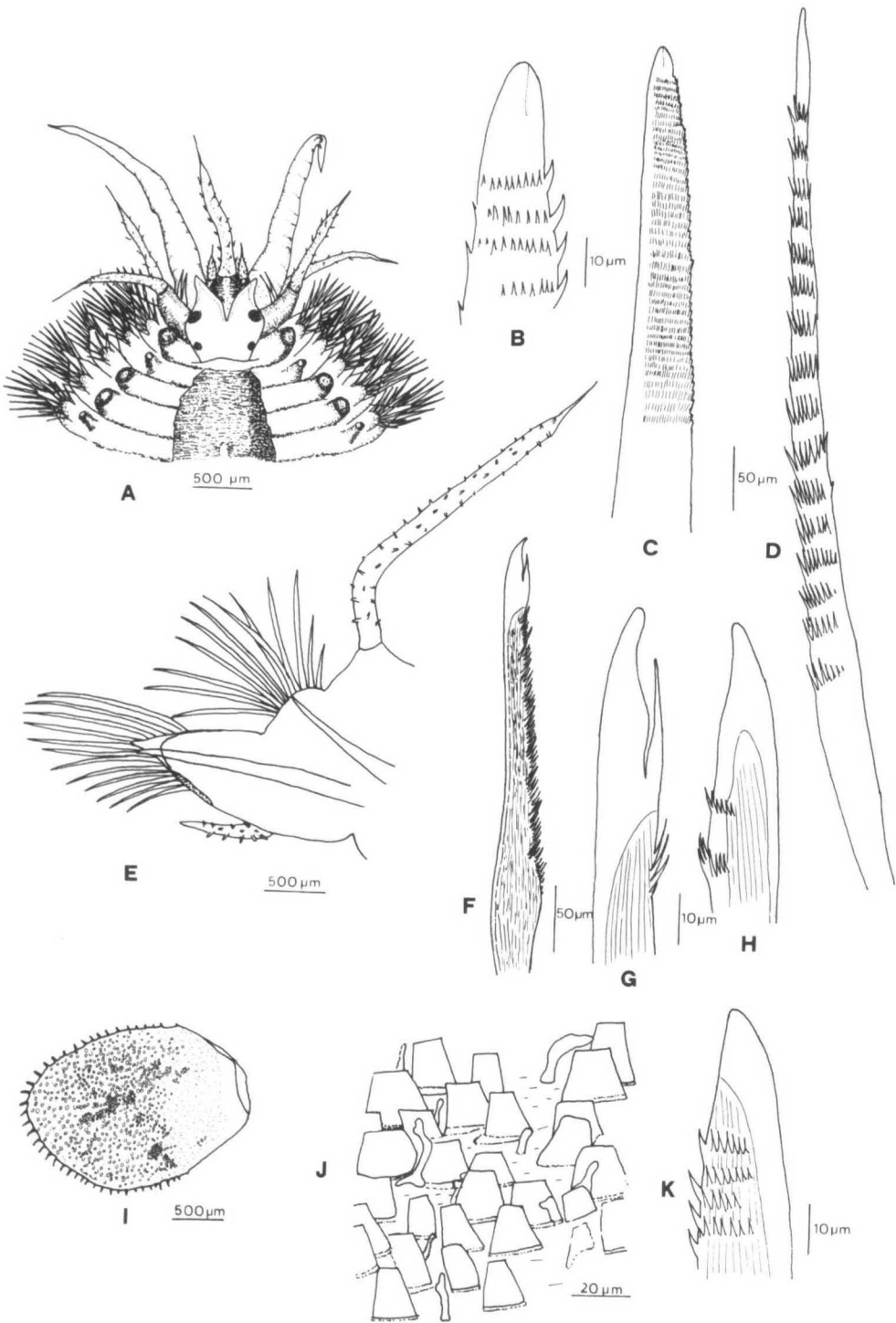


Figure 3. *Harmothoe cascabullicola*, Holotype: A, anterior end, dorsal view; B, tip of middle notoseta; C, middle notoseta; D, upper neuroseta; E, left cirriferous parapodium of middle segment, posterior view; F, middle neuroseta; G, tip of middle neuroseta; H, tip of lower neuroseta; I, elytrum from middle segment; J, elytral truncate conical microtubercles and papillae; K, tip of upper neuroseta.

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